

## **Unified Health Communication:**

Addressing Health Literacy, Cultural Competency, and Limited English Proficiency



**Job Aid** 

## The Newest Vital Sign Assessment

Nutrition Facts Serving Size		½ cup
Servings per container		4
Amount per serving		
Calories 250	Fat Cal	120
		%DV
Total Fat 13g		20%
Sat Fat 9g		40%
Cholesterol 28mg		12%
Sodium 55mg		2%
Total Carbohydrate 30g		12%
Dietary Fiber 2g		
Sugars 23g		
Protein 4g		8%

\*Percentage Daily Values (DV) are based on a 2,000 calorie diet. Your daily values may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

Ingredients: Cream, Skim Milk, Liquid Sugar, Water, Egg Yolks, Brown Sugar, Milkfat, Peanut Oil, Sugar, Butter, Salt, Carrageenan, Vanilla Extract.

The content for this material was excerpted from *The Newest Vital Sign—A Health Literacy Assessment Tool* website available at: <a href="http://www.newestvitalsign.org/nvs-resources.aspx">http://www.newestvitalsign.org/nvs-resources.aspx</a>

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## Score Sheet for the Newest Vital Sign Questions and Answers

READ TO SUBJECT: This information is on the back of a container of a pint of ice cream.		CORRECT?	
		no	
1. If you eat the entire container, how many calories will you eat?			
Answer: 1,000 is the only correct answer			
2. If you are allowed to eat 60 grams of carbohydrates as a snack, how much ice cream could you have?			
<b>Answer:</b> Any of the following is correct: 1 cup (or any amount up to 1 cup), Half the container Note: If patient answers "two servings," ask "How much ice cream would that be if you were to measure it into a bowl."			
3. Your doctor advises you to reduce the amount of saturated fat in your diet. You usually have 42 g of saturated fat each day, which includes one serving of ice cream. If you stop eating ice cream, how many grams of saturated fat would you be consuming each day?			
Answer: 33 is the only correct answer			
4. If you usually eat 2500 calories in a day, what percentage of your daily value of calories will you be eating if you eat one serving?			
Answer: 10% is the only correct answer			
READ TO SUBJECT: Pretend that you are allergic to the following substances: Penicillin, peanuts, latex gloves, and bee stings.			
5. Is it safe for you to eat this ice cream?			
Answer: No			
6. (Ask only if the patient responds "no" to question 5): Why not?			
Answer: Because it has peanut oil.			
Interpretation Number of correct answers:			
Score of 0-1 suggests high likelihood (50% or more) of limited literacy Score of 2-3 indicates the possibility of limited literacy. Score of 4-6 almost always indicates adequate literacy.			